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#### **COST FINDING**

PREFACE 5001

This chapter provides an overview of the cost finding process as well as the basis and sequence of the allocation. The chapter also addresses adjustments and reclassifications which are to be made.

#### **PRINCIPLES OF COST FINDING**

5010

Cost finding is the apportionment or allocation of the costs of the non revenue-producing centers to each other and to the revenue-producing centers on the basis of the statistical data that measure the amount of service rendered by each center to other centers. The purpose of cost finding is to determine the total or full costs of operating the revenue-producing centers of the hospitals.

The underlying principles governing development of the required sequence of allocations for cost finding include:

- 1) Cost centers that provide the greatest amount of service to the greatest number of other centers and receive the least from others are apportioned in the first stages of cost finding.
- 2) When the above determination could not be made, the allocation sequence was made based on the greatest amount of accumulated cost.

#### **COST FINDING**

#### **BASES AND SEQUENCE OF ALLOCATION**

5020

The process of cost finding to be used is called the step-down method. This method gives recognition to the fact that the services rendered by certain non-revenue - producing centers are utilized by other non-revenue - producing centers, as well as by the revenue - producing centers. The accumulated cost in a non-revenue - producing center, therefore, is allocated to other non-revenue - producing centers which utilize its services, as well as to the revenue - producing centers to which it renders services. Once the costs of a non-revenue - producing center have been allocated, however, that center is considered closed and will not receive any portion of the costs of the other non-revenue - producing centers whose costs have yet to be allocated. The required sequence of and statistical bases for allocating the costs of non-revenue - producing centers are as follows. The statistical bases are defined in Section 5032.

Non-Revenue Producing Center	Statistical Basis for Cost Allocation
Interest - Other	Square Feet
Insurance - Other	Square Feet
Licenses and Taxes (Other than on	
Income)	Square Feet
Depreciation and Amortization	Square Feet
Leases and Rentals	Square Feet
Interest - Working Capital	Accumulated Costs
Hospital Administration	Accumulated Costs
Governing Board Expense	Accumulated Costs
Public Relations	Accumulated Costs
Management Engineering	Accumulated Costs
Community Health Education	Accumulated Costs
Other Administrative Services	Accumulated Costs
General Accounting	Accumulated Costs
Communications	Accumulated Costs
Other Fiscal Services	Accumulated Costs
Printing and Duplicating	Accumulated Costs
Personnel	Hospital FTEs
Employee Health Services	Hospital FTEs
Employee Benefits - Non-Payroll Related	Hospital FTEs
Non-Patient Food Services	Hospital FTEs
Purchasing and Stores	Supplies
Housekeeping	Square Feet Serviced
Grounds	Square Feet
Security	Square Feet
Parking	Square Feet
Plant Operations	Square Feet
Plant Maintenance	Square Feet
Other General Services	Square Feet

#### **COST FINDING**

<u>Statis</u>	<u>tica</u>	l Bas	<u>is for</u>
Co	st A	llocat	tion

Gross Patient Revenue

Dietary Meals Served

Laundry and Linen Dry and Clean Pounds Processed

Patient Accounting Gross Patient Revenue **Data Processing** Gross Patient Revenue Credit and Collection Gross Patient Revenue **Auxiliary Groups Gross Patient Revenue** Chaplaincy Services Gross Patient Revenue Medical Library **Gross Patient Revenue** Medical Records Gross Patient Revenue Medical Staff Administration Gross Patient Revenue Social Work Services **Gross Patient Revenue** 

Utilization Management Gross Patient Revenue
Insurance - Hospital and

Professional Malpractice

Non-Revenue Producing Center

Admitting Gross Patient Revenue
Other Unassigned Costs Gross Patient Revenue
Outpatient Registration Gross Outpatient Revenue

Nursing Administration

Nursing FTEs
Inservice Education - Nursing
Central Services and Supplies

Costed Requisitions
and Cost of Sales

Pharmacy (excluding Cost of Sales)

and Cost of Sales

Costed Requisitions and Cost of Sales

Research Projects and Administration

Education Administrative Office

Gross Patient Revenue

Students in All Approved Programs

Student Housing Students in All Approved Programs
Licensed Vocational Assignment of Student Nurses

Nursing Program
School of Nursing
Assignment of Student Nurses
Paramedical Education
Assignment of Paramedic Students
Other Health Profession Education
Assignment of Paramedic Students
Medical Postgraduate Education
Assignment of Medical Post-Graduate

Students

### COMPILATION OF DATA

5030

#### **REVENUE AND EXPENSES**

5031

Revenue and expenses must be either accumulated in or reclassified to the accounts according to the functional units that produce and incur them.

#### **COST FINDING**

**STATISTICS** 5032

Cost finding utilizes statistics in making the distribution of indirect costs to revenue-producing cost centers. Adequate statistical data must be maintained to measure the performance of each center. Each non revenue-producing center shall have one statistic that measures its production (volume of service to other centers).

It is advisable to develop a written procedure for the collection of statistical data.

The definitions and sources of the required statistics for cost allocation are as follows:

Definitions and Sources of Statistics for Cost Allocation

#### Statistic Definition or Method of Computation Source

Square feet

The number of square feet in each cost center of the hospital must be determined either by a physical measurement of the hospital or by a measurement from blueprints. Floor area measurements must be taken from the center of walls to the center of adjoining corridors if a hallway services more than one cost center. Exclude stairwells, elevators, and other shafts. General and unused areas, hallways, waiting rooms, storage areas are also to be excluded. Hallways, waiting rooms, storage areas, etc., serving only one cost center must be included in that cost center. Common areas such as conference rooms, break rooms and other areas used by more than one cost center must be excluded. When changes in assigned area have been made during the year as a result of new construction, cost center relocation, expansion, or curtailment of service, statistical data must be maintained to allow for the development of "weighted" areas for the fractional part of the year. For example, the addition or deletion of 1,200 square feet for a six month period would be an adjustment of 600 square feet; where the same area serves more than one function, this area must be apportioned between or among the appropriate functions

5032

Blueprints of the hospital facility or actual measurement if blueprints are not available.

<u>Statistic</u>	<u>Definition or Method of Computation</u>	Source
Square Feet Serviced	The number of square feet serviced shall be computed in the same manner square feet are computed, however, include only square feet serviced on a regular and ongoing basis.	Blueprints of the hospital facility or actual measure- ment if blueprints are not available
Accumulated costs	The direct costs of each cost center and indirect costs previously allocated.	Report Page 20
Hospital full- time equivalents	Divide total productive hours (hour worked) by 2080.	Payroll accounting records (or Report Pages 21 and 22)
Supplies	Total direct costs contained in the natural classification "Supplies" by cost center, as reclassified.	General ledger, as reclassified (or Report Pages 17 and 18)
Meals served	Number of meals served shall include only regularly scheduled meals and exclude snacks and fruit juices served between regularly scheduled meals.	Actual count maintained by dietary
Number of dry and clean pounds processed	Statistic shall include the weight of linen processed for each cost center's use (including linen of personnel quarters and employee housing) for the entire report period.	Actual count maintained in the laundry and linen cost center.
Gross patient revenue	Gross patient revenue of each revenue-producing center	General ledger (on Report page 12)
Gross Outpatient Revenue	Gross outpatient revenue of each revenue producing center.	General ledger (on Report page 12)

<u>Statistic</u>	<u>Definition or Method of Computation</u>	Source
Nursing full- time equivalents	Divide total productive hours for nursing employees by 2080.	Payroll accounting records (on Report page 21)
Costed requisitions for central services and supplies	Total dollar amounts of costed requisitions by an actual accumulation or on a sampling basis. (See instructions for completing Report page 19).	Copies of requisitions maintained in Central Services and Supplies cost center.
Costed requisitions for pharmacy	Total dollar amount of costed requisitions by an actual accumulation or on a sampling basis. (See instructions for completing Report Page 19.)	Copies of requisitions maintained in Pharmacy cost center.
Students on all approved programs	Number of students enrolled in all approved teaching programs during the reporting period by assigned Education Program.	Education records
Assignment of student nurses	Number of full-time equivalent (FTE) nursing students enrolled in LVN and student nursing programs by assigned cost center. FTE is defined as the number of paid student nurse months divided by 12. Partial months are counted as one when one-half or more of the month is worked and not counted when less than half of the month is worked.	Education records
Assignment of Paramedical students	Number of full-time equivalent students enrolled in paramedical and other health profession educational programs by assigned cost center. FTE is defined as the number of paid paramedical students months divided by 12. Partial months are counted as one when one half or more of the month is worked and not counted when less than half of the month is worked	Education records

<u>Statistic</u>	<u>Definition or Method of Computation</u>	<u>Source</u>
Assignment of residents and fellows.	Number of full-time equivalent (FTE) residents and fellows in approved and non-approved teaching programs by assigned cost centers. FTE is defined as the number of paid residents/fellowship months divided by 12. Partial months are counted as one when one half or more of the month is worked and not counted when less than half of the month is worked. Fellows are graduates of a school of medicine or osteopathy who have had a period of post doctoral medical education and are pursuing a more individualized course of advanced residents who have already completed the minimum number of years of training required for board eligibility.	Education Records
	training required for board eligibility.	

#### **COST FINDING**

#### **ADJUSTMENTS AND RECLASSIFICATIONS**

5040

#### OTHER OPERATING REVENUE

5041

Other operating revenues (Accounts 5010-5790) are reported on Report Page 14. Certain of these revenue are offset against the costs of the cost center generating the revenue on Report Page 20 during cost allocation. Revenues generated by several cost centers and minor cost recoveries are offset against direct costs prior to cost finding on Report Pages 17 and 18. Research and education revenues and restricted fund transfers are offset against costs after cost finding on Report Page 20.

#### NON-OPERATING EXPENSES

5042

Non-operating expenses are included in the cost finding trial balance (Report Page 20) and will absorb overhead costs through step down, if appropriate. Direct non-operating expenses are not allocated to the revenue-producing cost centers, but are carried directly to the Income Statement (Report Page 8). Provision for income taxes and extraordinary items are not shown on the cost finding schedule but are carried directly to the Income Statement.

#### RECLASSIFICATION OF COST CENTERS

5043

Reclassifications are necessary to adjust the hospital's records to the reporting requirements of the Office if they do not already reflect these requirements. Reclassification of physician and students' compensation is accomplished on Report Pages 15 and 16. All other expense reclassifications must be made on the hospital's books and records prior to entering the trial balance amounts on Report Pages 17 and 18.

Revenue reclassifications are to be made on the hospital's books and records prior to entering the trial balance amounts on the revenue report pages (Report Pages 12 and 14).

Reclassification, as discussed in this Manual, are of three types:

- (1) Reclassification to obtain the required level of reporting.
- (2) Reclassification to correct "dislocations" of a given type of patient care service which affect revenues and costs, and
- (3) Reclassification to correct accumulation of costs.

#### **COST FINDING**

The first type of reclassification may be necessary to reach the required level of reporting because the hospital has combined several departments. For instance, smaller hospitals may be combining the costs of acute and intensive care in one nursing unit cost center. In such cases, it is necessary to reclassify the total direct costs incurred in the two different types of care into two specific cost centers relating to these two types of services.

The second type is necessary when "overflow" patients are treated in cost centers other than the functional center relating to the services provided (e.g., a Medical/Surgical acute patient treated in an intensive care unit because all Medical/Surgical beds were occupied).

The third type of reclassification, to correct the accumulation of costs, would be necessary when expense associated with a particular function is recorded in a cost center different from the functional description specified in this Manual. For instance, a reclassification would be required if Dietary recorded the costs associated with hand-feeding of patients, because these costs should have been recorded in the Daily Hospital Services cost center relating to that patient.

The following are examples of how a hospital may accumulate costs in one cost center and then reclassify the costs to the appropriate cost centers for year end reporting.

- 1) Plant maintenance all plant maintenance costs accumulated in the plant maintenance cost center (8460) during the year, with work order information accumulated during the year relative to significant, non-routine work for which costs must be transferred. Actual transfers would then be made at year end on the accounting records to individual cost centers for which the work was done.
- 2) Depreciation depreciation may be accumulated in one cost center (8810) during the year but adjustments must be made on the accounting records at year end to transfer depreciation on major moveable and minor equipment specifically identifiable to individual cost centers to those cost centers.
- 3) Employee benefits employee benefits may be accumulated in one cost center (8880) during the year with adjustments made on the accounting records at year end to relate payroll-related employee benefits to specific cost centers.

The following reclassification matrices indicate the cost center which should be charged with the cost of providing certain functions. If these expenses have not been included in direct costs of the indicated cost center, a reclassification is required, if material. Materiality is defined as a distortion of the cost per unit of service by more than five (5) percent in either cost center. The effect of reclassification is cumulative. One reclassification may not distort the cost per unit of service by five percent distortion. Therefore, these would be material and must be made.

#### **COST FINDING**

These reclassifications may be computed on any one of the following bases:

- 1) Analysis of direct expenses including time and cost studies.
- 2) Ratio of total charges to charges of a specific cost center.
- 3) Ratio of total units of service to units of service being reclassified in a specific cost center.

#### **COST FINDING**

Other Ambulatory Services Adult Day Health Care Hospice - Outpatient **Ambulatory Services** Home Health Care Services Partial Hospitalization - Psychiatric Observation Care Outpatient Chemical Dependency Services Satellite Ambulatory Surgery Center Psychiatric Emergency Rooms Medical Transportation Services Emergency Services Functional Reclassification Matrix Responsibility Reporting Centers Other Daily Hospital Services Other Long-Term Care Services ntermediate Care Psychiatric - Long Term Care X Skilled Nursing Care × × Sub Acute Care Nursery Acute Other Acute Care × Hospice - Inpatient Sves Daily Hospital Services × Physical Rehab Care Chemical Dependency Services XXXX Alternate Birthing Center Obstetrics Acute Psychiatric Acute - Adolescent and Child Psychiatric Acute - Adult × × Medical/Surgical Acute Definitive Observation Other Intensive Care Bum Care Psychiatric Intensive (Isolation) Care Neonatal Intensive Care Pediatric Intensive Care Coronary Care Medical/Surgical Intensive Care . S 12 7 16 17 Renal Dialysis - Outpatient, Inpatient, and Home Requiring Reclassification OHS to Patients Requiring Long-Term Care sychiatric Emergency Room Nursing Care DHS to Patients Requiring Intensive Care DHS to Patients Requiring Acute Care OHS to Patients Requiring Other Care **Type 2 Functions** Family Home Service Nursing Care Emergency Services Nursing Care OHS to Medical/Surgical Patients Purchased Inpatient Services OHS to Psychiatric Patients Home Heatth Nursing Care OHS to Pediatric Patients DHS to Obstetric Patients OHS to Nursery Patients Clinic Nursing Care

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Type 2 Functions Requiring Reclassification	Line No.	Medical/Surgical Intensive Care	Coronary Care	Pediatric Intensive Care Neonatal Intensive Care	Psychiatric Intensive (Isolation) Care	Sum Care	Other Intensive Care	Definitive Observation Medical/Surgical Acute	Pediatric Acute	Psychiatric Acute - Adult	Psychiatric Acute - Adolescent and Child	Obstetrics Acute	Alternate Birthing Center Chemical Dependency Services	Physical Rehab Care	Hospice - Inpatient Svcs	Other Acute Care	Mursery Acute	Sub Acute Care	Skilled Mursing Care	Psychiatric - Long Term Care Intermediate Care	Residential Care	Other Long-Term Care Services	Other Daily Hospital Services		Emergency Services Medical Transportation Services	Psychiatric Emergency Rooms	Clinics	Satellite Clinics	Satellite Ambulatory Surgery Center	Outpatient Chemical Dependency Services	Observation Care Partial Hospitalization - Psychiatric	Home Health Care Services	Hospice - Outpatient	Adult Day Health Care	Other Ambulatory Services	
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Radiology - Diagnostic Ејеспошуовтарћу Cardiology Services Sardiac Catheterization Services Echocardiology Blood Bank Pathological Laboratory Services Clinical Laboratory Services Durable Medical Equipment Medical Supplies Sold to Patients Anesthesiology Ambulatory Surgery Services Surgery and Recovery Services Labor and Delivery Services Line No. 00 9 12 7 9 Renal Dialysis - Outpatient, Inpatient, and Home OHS to Patients Requiring Long-Term Care sychiatric Emergency Room Nursing Care Requiring Reclassification OHS to Patients Requiring Intensive Care OHS to Patients Requiring Acute Care OHS to Patients Requiring Other Care Type 2 Functions amily Home Service Nursing Care **Emergency Services Nursing Care** OHS to Medical/Surgical Patients Purchased Inpatient Services **DHS** to Psychiatric Patients Iome Heatlh Nursing Care **DHS** to Pediatric Patients **DHS** to Obstetric Patients **OHS to Nursery Patients** Clinic Nursing Care

(DHS - Daily Hospital Services)

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	•		Type 3 Functions	Purchasing, Receiving, Storing Processing, Issuing Blood	Collecting, Assembling, Sterilizing & Redistributing Items	Drawing Blood Samples	Collecting Urine, Sputum and Feces Specimens	Serving and Feeding of Patients	Operating Specialized Equipment for Monitoring Life Signs	Bathing Patients	Administering Medications	Keeping Patients Room in Order	Operating Equipment to Diagnose and Treat Patients	Infusing Fluids	Administering Oxygen and Therapy Cases	Laundry Pickup and Delivery	Inservice Education (Non-Teaching Employees)	Teaching Students on Approved Programs	Performing Research	Trancribing Physicians Reports	Registering Patients		
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#### **COST FINDING**

Type 1 - Functional Reclassifications

Reporting at Required Organizational Unit Level

The revenues, costs, and statistics of each daily hospital, ambulatory and ancillary services listed on Report Page 12 must be reported on the appropriate lines and pages if the hospital has such an organizational unit(s) or if beds have been specified by the hospital for such types of care. If neither is the case, but patients are admitted by the clinical categories or intensity of care categories listed therein, the revenues, costs, and units of service must be reclassified as a Type 2 functional reclassification.

Type 2 - Functional Reclassifications

To Correct "Dislocations" of a Given Type of Patient Care Service

It is recognized that from time to time it will be necessary to admit patients into cost centers providing more intensive care than the patient requires, due to space and other problems. Likewise, it is occasionally necessary to mix major clinical patient categories (i.e., Psychiatric patient in Medical/Surgical unit). The revenues, costs, and statistics associated with these situations must be reclassified per the reporting requirement.

Functional Reporting Matrix M2 is provided to assist in identifying these requirements.

Type 3 - Functional Reclassifications

Corrections to Accumulated Costs

Many activities are common to each cost center and therefore give rise to reclassification if the costs are being assigned to another cost center on its behalf and are material.

Activities common to most functional cost centers such as planning, appraising, analyzing, preparing staffing schedules, meeting legal requirements and sanitary standards, keeping abreast of applicable fields, clerical work incidental to the activities of the functional reporting center, documenting work performed, initiating requisitions, the provision for and receipt of in-service education, educating patients for self-care, maintaining specialized libraries, preparing budgets, evaluating assigned personnel, and attending meetings shall be assigned to the functional reporting center in which the activity is performed. The operation of equipment includes preventive maintenance such as cleaning, oiling, and calibration.

#### **COST FINDING**

Other activities are unique (as herein defined) and their cost must be reported per the cost center functional descriptions. If the cost of these activities are accumulated in a different cost center, they must be reclassified. To assist in the identification of these, a sample list of functions whose costs must occasionally be reclassified is included in Functional Reclassification Matrix M3 along with the centers to which they must be reclassified if they are material